

Alan Moore, Chair	Ron Newman, Vice Chair	Greg Palmer, Secretary
Jim Gallagher	Jenifer Kaminsky	Asher Miller
Bhupesh Patel		
Mike Buckle, Office of the Mayor		Denise Provost, Board of Aldermen
Stephen Winslow, Housing and Community Development		Jim Hodgedon, Police
Joan Lastovica, Public Works		Todd Blake, Traffic and Parking

MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 27, 2004, Visiting Nurse Assn., Lowell St.

AGENDA City Report, Bicycle Guidelines, Member Recruitment, 2004 Priorities, Subcommittees, Clyde St. Redevelopment, Announcements

ATTENDEES Alan Moore- Chair, Greg Palmer- Secretary, Jim Gallagher, Bhupesh Patel, Stephen Winslow- OHCD, Community Path- Joel Bennett
Visitors: Jennifer Hill- Groundwork Somerville, Helen Mahan- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

1. Minutes Approved - March 2004 meeting minutes were approved with corrections. It was noted that at least 7 days should be available for reviewing draft minutes prior to the next meeting.

2. Active Living by Design - met with Helen Mahan, Robert Woods Johnson Active Living by Design program, whose grant is funding Steve Winslow's position and other programs in the city. Helen and all the partners in the Somerville program met on April 27 for a 4 hour bicycle tour of the city. Somerville's program will be a model for urban areas to improve the built environment for active living.

3. City Report

A. Community Path

Cedar St. to Central St.: The proposed design will be submitted to the MBTA for support/approval. Discussions are continuing on how the Path can cross Cambridge Health Alliance's property at Central St. without eliminating too many parking spaces. One alternative is a temporary routing through the parking lot with the goal of a more separated Path in the future. Size of the parking lot at Cedar St. was also discussed.

School St. to Cambridge city line: 5 proposals were received in response to the Request For Proposals; 2 firms are finalists for the design contract.

Warwick St./Clyde St. Redevelopment: The developer has considered using the abandoned Cedar to Lowell freight spur as a combination access road and Community Path. The Committee is not in favor of this design. Another option is for access to the site from the Lowell St. bridge.

Somerville/Cambridge/Belmont path improvements: A MassHighway 25% public design meeting is set for May 13, 2004, 7pm at the TAB Building, Holland St.

B. Stop and Shop - Bhupesh and Steve have spoken with a Stop & Shop representative about bicycle (covered) parking, bike access, and pedestrian access to the new Stop & Shop. He'll provide us with a conceptual design for I-93 access/undercrossing. Ron made a

motion that was seconded and approved: Alan will write a letter to the Planning Board, OHCD and Traffic and Parking (cc: to Stop and Shop) stating that the SBC recommends that a dedicated crosswalk for pedestrians and bicycles be added to the proposed new traffic light at the intersection of Blakely St. and McGrath Hwy. to accommodate the "desire line" from Foss Park to the new store.

C. Lowell St. Bridge - The project has gone out to bid. OHCD is still looking to get plans from MassHighway. Presumably they don't interfere with the future Path construction.

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D. Coordination - Steve presented a proposed process to coordinate SBC activities with appropriate city departments.

E. Mystic Crossing - About 50 people, including Mayor Curtatone, joined the walk along the Mystic River and Amelia Earhart Dam from the Wellington T station on April 24th., exploring potential connections between paths in Somerville, Medford, and Everett.

4. Membership - Anyone who has contacted the city or the SBC will be invited to the next (May) meeting. It was suggested that a flyer be prepared to advertise the need for new members that can be handed out at Bike Week activities, etc.

5. Subcommittee Action Items -

- A. Bhupesh distributed an "SBC Plan" that categorized our 2004 priorities into the Bicycle Master Plan, Programs, and Community Involvement.
- B. Bhupesh will write a letter of support for expanding the Mystic River Path through MBTA property in Charlestown.
- C. Alan will write a letter of support for a bike/ped crossing of McGrath Hwy. at the new Stop & Shop.
- D. Steve, Bhupesh, and Jim will work on the draft bicycle parking ordinance.
- E. Bhupesh and Steve will continue communications with Stop & Shop on possible bike/ped improvements.
- F. Greg & Bhupesh will continue to monitor plans for developments along the Community Path at 131 Willow Ave. (corner of Morrison), and at 35R Lexington Ave.
- G. Greg will continue working on the Central Business District sidewalk bicycling rules and will draft an addition to the Bicycling Guidelines on road pavement patching.
- H. Ron will work on organizing bike tours and events and route and mapping of bicycling routes in the city
- I. Greg & Jim will focus on accommodating bicycles in Somerville's streets (infrastructure).
- J. Bhupesh will concentrate on implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan and the Bicycle Parking Ordinance.
- K. Alan, along with Joel, will work on the bike ring program, and with safe routes to schools programs.
- L. We will ask that Asher and Jenifer volunteer to work on some particular activities

6. Announcements -

- A. April 28 - Active Living by Design walking meeting with Mark Fenton, at the High School library, 10 am - 2 pm; Joel and Bhupesh are planning to attend.
- B. May 2 - The Mystic River Herring Run.
- C. May 6 - Planning Board meeting on the new Stop and Shop; Bhupesh can't attend.

D. May 13 - MassHighway Somer./Camb./Belmont path improvements meeting, 7pm at TAB Building, Holland St.

E. May 19 - tentative date for a neighborhood meeting on Warwick St./Clyde St. development, VNA, Lowell St.

F. May 22 - Third Annual Historic Tour of Somerville by Bicycle, 10 am, City Hall.

7. Meeting Adjourned 9:05 pm; next meeting Tuesday, May 25, City Hall

Prepared by Stephen Winslow and reviewed by Greg Palmer and Alan Moore